

THE BIG PICTURE



The City of Winchester's streams and ponds are part of the Opequon Creek Watershed.

Five stream segments (including Abrams Creek which flows through Winchester) in the Opequon Creek Watershed are in Virginia's 303(d) list of polluted waters due to benthic impairment and fecal coliform bacteria.

When it rains, pet waste, geese droppings, fertilizer, and other stormwater pollutants flow into the City's waterways.



Winchester City Code: Article I, Section 11-3(d):

No person shall allow manure deposited by his/her animal to remain on any public highway, street, sidewalk, park, or other public property or on private property....(Penalty: Class 1 misdemeanor)

WHAT A WASTE

Pet waste left on the street or on lawns does not fertilize the ground or ever really go away. Instead, rain flushes it into the nearest waterway via runoff and storm drains that do not connect to treatment facilities. Harmful bacteria contained in the waste makes water unfit for irrigation and recreation and, in excess, disrupts the water's natural ecology.



JUST POO IT

Take a bag with you on walks. When your dog stops and gives you that look, get your hand ready. Once you pick it up using the bag to protect your hand, tie it off and throw it in a garbage can.

Pet waste stations can be found throughout the city. If a garbage can is not near, please take the waste with you.



Did you know? A single gram of pet waste contains an average of 23 million fecal coliform bacteria, some of which can cause disease in humans.

LEASH, CURB, AND
CLEAN UP
AFTER YOUR PET

